

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 718

Supporting the goals and ideals of National Long-Term Care Residents' Rights Week, recognizing the importance to the United States of residents of long-term care facilities, including senior citizens and individuals living with disabilities, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 9, 2007

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY (for herself, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. McNULTY, Mr. UPTON, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Mr. MATHESON, and Mr. YARMUTH) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

RESOLUTION

Supporting the goals and ideals of National Long-Term Care Residents' Rights Week, recognizing the importance to the United States of residents of long-term care facilities, including senior citizens and individuals living with disabilities, and for other purposes.

Whereas there are nearly 1,700,000 individuals living in 17,000 nursing homes and 1,000,000 individuals living in 46,000 board and care and assisted living facilities in the United States;

Whereas residents of long-term care facilities, including senior citizens and individuals living with disabilities, are one of the United States most valued resources;

Whereas residents of long-term care facilities include the “Greatest Generation” of Americans who protected the freedoms of the people of the United States during World War II and helped rebuild the world in the postwar years;

Whereas almost 160,000 people younger than 65 years of age live in nursing homes in the United States;

Whereas the United States should honor and celebrate long-term care residents, recognize their rich individuality, and reaffirm their rights as community members and citizens, including the right to vote;

Whereas subtitle C of title IV of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1987 (commonly known as the “Nursing Home Reform Act of 1987”) guaranteed important rights, such as the right to privacy, the right to be treated with dignity, the right to exercise self-determination, the right to participate in the review of one’s care plan, the right to be fully informed in advance of any changes in treatment, and the right to voice grievances without discrimination or reprisal;

Whereas long-term care ombudsmen, citizen advocates, facility staff, and family and resident councils work to educate and empower residents in the exercise of their rights;

Whereas the week beginning October 7, 2007, will be celebrated as National Long-Term Care Residents’ Rights Week with the theme “Advancing Excellence: A Resident’s Perspective on Quality”, to emphasize the importance of affirming those rights through facility practices, public policy, and resident-centered decision-making;

Whereas in recognition of National Long-Term Care Residents' Rights Week, individuals and groups around the country will be affirming the importance of quality of care and quality of life for long-term care residents; and

Whereas National Long-Term Care Residents' Rights Week originated in 1980, with resolutions introduced by Representative Claude Pepper and Senator David Pryor to designate a Nursing Home Residents Day: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) supports the goals and ideals of National
3 Long-Term Care Residents' Rights Week;

4 (2) recognizes the importance to the United
5 States of residents of long-term care facilities, in-
6 cluding senior citizens and individuals living with
7 disabilities; and

8 (3) encourages the President to issue a procla-
9 mation calling upon the people of the United States
10 to observe National Long-Term Care Residents'
11 Rights Week with appropriate ceremonies and activi-
12 ties to demonstrate the importance of long-term care
13 residents to the everyday lives of the people of the
14 United States.

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